

C O N C O R D I A U N I V E R S I T Y

Faculty of Engineering

Minutes of Meeting No. 79-4

of the

Engineering Faculty Council

held

Friday, 20 April 1979

Present: M.N.S. Swamy (Chairman); Professors Antoniou, Bhargava, Guy, Ha, Habashi, Joly, Krakow, Kubina, Lindsay, Nasser, Osman, Sankar, White; Ms Z. Jirkowsky (Library representative); Prof. J.C. Giguere (Secretary)

Absent with apology: Professors Douglass, Fazio, Krantzberg, Troitsky, Xistris

Visitor: Prof. Ahmed

Motion
79-4-1

1. Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve the proposed agenda with the addition of
 - 7.1 Supervisory Committee for Election to Faculty Tenure Committee
 - 7.2 Holding of tests and quizzes in the final week of classes

Motion
79-4-2

2. Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve the minutes of meeting 79-3 with the understanding that Prof. Bhargava's name would be added to the attendance list.
3. Chairman's remarks
 1. The Chairman advised Council that Prof. Ziogas had been awarded his Ph.D. by the University of Toronto
 2. The Chairman advised Council that NSERC funding to faculty had once again increased substantially over the previous year. Six major equipment grants were awarded in addition to operating grants. Prof. Habashi has been awarded a two-year PRAI grant valued at \$76,000 for work to be carried out in conjunction with Pratt and Whitney. Professors Svoboda and Katz have also been awarded a two-year PRAI grant valued at \$89,000 for work to be carried out with Wright Manufacturing Limited.

Although FCAC grants have not yet been released, it appears that the Faculty will do well once again this year.

3. The Chairman welcomed Prof. Ahmed, who has recently joined the Faculty as a member of the Civil Engineering Department.

4. Graduate slot courses

Motion
79-4-3

Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve two graduate slot courses for offering as shown in Doc. 79-4-1.

5. Award of Concordia degree to B.Eng. graduates of SGWU

Motion
79-4-4

Council considered a motion to authorize the ad hoc committee of Council set up under Motion 79-3-8 to consider as part of its mandate the award of the Concordia B.Eng. degree to those recipients of SGWU degrees who formally submit a request to this effect. The ad hoc committee is to report to Council on this issue at the same time it pronounces itself on the question of the doctorate degree.

Motion
79-4-5

6. Council unanimously adopted a motion to table Motion 79-4-4.

7. Supervisory Committee for Election to Tenure Committee

Motion
79-4-6

Council unanimously adopted a motion to establish a committee to supervise the elections to the Faculty Tenure Committee.

8. Professors Xistris and Troitsky were nominated to the committee established under Motion 77-4-5.

Motion
79-4-7

9. Council unanimously adopted a motion to close nominations.

10. Professors Xistris and Troitsky were declared elected.

11. The Chairman proposed that Council approve the following election procedure. The ballot paper will contain the names of the candidates. The N electors will rank the n candidates in order of preference. Let P_{ij} be the rank given by the j th elector to the i th candidate. Let $S_{ij} = n - P_{ij} + 1$. Then the overall support C_i received by the i th candidate will be given by:

$$C_i = \sum_{j=1}^N S_{ij}$$

The numbers C_i will be arranged in order of decreasing magnitude. The candidates associated with the first four numbers in the sequence will be declared, in order, first and second members, and first and second alternates.

Motion

12. Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve the election procedure described in item 11 above.

13. End of term quizzes

The Chairman drew Council's attention to a letter sent by Vice-

Rector Breen to the Faculty of Arts and Science wherein he noted that some instructors were not adhering to the University regulation forbidding the holding of tests, quizzes or examinations in the final week of classes. In the ensuing discussion, it was noted that some instructors preferred to give a series of quizzes or tests rather than have a final examination which would form the primary basis for determining the final grade. Some members felt that this provided a better means of assessing student performance. Others believed that the student should, at least during the first part of his programme, be tested on his overall grasp of the material in a course.

Motion
79-4-9

14. Council considered a motion to require that a final examination be mandatory for all 200 and 300 level B.Eng. courses, and that this final examination constitute at least 60% of the final grade. Exceptions to this rule would be considered by the Dean's office upon the recommendation of the Chairman/Director responsible for the course in question.

15. It was argued that such a regulation impinged upon the freedom of the instructor to determine how best to assess his students. It was counter-argued that the Faculty acting through Council could assert its collective wisdom in this matter.

Motion
79-4-10

16. Council considered a motion to amend Motion 79-4-9 by requiring that a passing grade for 200 and 300 level B.Eng. courses could be awarded only if a student had achieved 50% on the final examination.

Motion
79-4-11

17. Council unanimously adopted a motion to call the question on Motion 79-4-10.

18. Motion 79-4-10 was defeated (2 for, 5 against).

19. It was argued that in the case of courses having laboratories, the 60% weight put on the final was excessive.

Motion
79-4-12

20. Council adopted a motion to amend Motion 79-4-9 by substituting 50% in the case of courses having laboratories (6 in favour, 3 opposed).

Motion
79-4-13

21. Council adopted a motion to amend Motion 79-4-9 by requiring that a passing grade for 200 and 300 level B.Eng. courses could be awarded only if a student passed the final examination (5 in favour, 4 against; 1 recorded abstention).

22. It was argued that Motion 79-4-13 was meaningless in that it included no definition of a "pass".

Motion
79-4-14

23. Council adopted a motion to overturn Motion 79-4-13 (7 in favour, 1 opposed, 1 recorded abstention).

24. Council adopted Motion 79-4-9 as amended by Motion 79-4-12.

Motion
79-4-15

25. Council adopted a motion to support the existing University regulation with respect to the ban on tests, quizzes and final examinations in the last week of classes.

Motion
79-4-16

26. Council unanimously adopted a motion to establish a summer quorum of eight members for the period 1 May to 31 August 1979, it being understood that any decision taken with summer quorum rules would be subject to review by Council at its next regular meeting.

Motion
79-4-17

27. Council unanimously approved a motion to adjourn.